

**CONNECTICUTY TRAUMA COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**Hunter's Ambulance
Conference Room**

September 18, 2014

PRESENT: Lenworth Jacobs, Chairman; Ray Barishansky, Brendan Campbell, Elizabeth Denby-Callahan, Kevin Dwyer, Shea Gregg, Richard Kamin, Florence Leishman, Jacqueline McQuay, Kevin Schuster, Subramani Seetharama, Jennifer Tabak

Dr. Jacobs called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and approved.

There was continuation of the discussion on the use of NARCAN by non-physician providers and the public for patients who had taken an overdose of narcotic medication. There was clearly significant public recognition of preventable deaths from narcotic overdose which has resulted in legislation which facilitates the administration of NARCAN by non-physicians. There was a considerable discussion as to the importance of being sure that no harm is done by this practice. It is essential to create a database and evaluate the number of preventive deaths from opiate overdose on an annual basis and then measure whether this number is decreasing. It will be critical to also identify the dispensation of NARCAN both by professionals and by the public to determine if this is related to a decrease in preventable deaths over time. This will allow public policy to be enhanced or modified based on objective data. There was also a clear statement that EMTs and other medical responders should be trained in the indications, use, and contraindications of giving NARCAN.

There was a report on an updated list of ambulance equipment. Some of the regulations have become dated and a new updated list has been prepared. This will be reviewed by the Trauma Committee.

The Committee was informed that the Vice President came to Connecticut and recognized the work that was performed by the Hartford Consensus and specifically the training which had been implemented by the Office of Emergency Medical Services for professional responders. He was also aware that the State Police have taken a major leadership role in training and equipping all their troopers. There was recognition that there is an increasing concern and awareness for potential terrorist activities both internationally and in the United States. The need for preparedness for intentional mass casualty events is critical.

A member of the committee gave a personal vignette of a battery being left inappropriately in front of his residence. This required the police and the bomb squad to inspect and identify that, in fact, this was not a major problem. It underlines the increasing concern within the public and the professional Public Safety Department of incidents which could lead to mass casualty events.

There was a discussion of the annual gun buyback program which had been hosted in Hartford. This has continued to be well attended and retrieves a number of illicit guns from the public.

The meeting was then adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled at 2:00 pm at Hunter's Ambulance Service in Meriden.

Respectfully submitted.

Flo Leishman